



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Steve Kakouros et al.                      Art Unit : 3627  
Serial No. : 09/608,057                                      Examiner : Cuff, Michael A.  
Filed : June 30, 2000  
Title : SPOT MARKET-BASED INVENTORY PLANNING

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO THE EXAMINER'S ACTION DATED JUNE 2, 2006

I. Status of claims

Claims 1-6, 8, 9, 12, and 14-21 are pending.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 9 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

II. Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-6, 8, and 14-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Brinkley (U.S. 5,963,919) in view of Salvo (U.S. 6,341,271).

A. Independent claim 1

Independent claim 1 recites:

1. A machine-implemented inventory planning method, comprising computing an optimal safety stock level for a product to cover uncertainty in demand over an exposure period with a desired service level based at least in part on a cost of obtaining the product from one or more spot market sources.

*approve  
entry -  
ME - 5/10/07*

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commission for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

July 28, 2006

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